

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A An automated method of tracking the flow of funds in an academic health center including a school of medicine, a hospital and a clinical practice plan as participants, including the steps of:

gathering data from each of the participants and other entities; and

loading the data into processor, the processor carrying out the functions of:

identifying, using the loaded data, all transactions across the participants and other entities;

identifying, using the loaded data, all sources of funds ~~and~~ provided for each department of a participant;

identifying, using the loaded data, all uses of funds for each department of the participant;

~~analyze~~ analyzing the funds flow among the participants; and

~~generate~~ generating a source of funds statement and uses of funds statement for each participant using the identified sources of funds and uses of funds, wherein

the source of funds includes cash received and values received that are not cash, and

the uses of funds include cash paid and values provided that are not cash values.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the funds flow further comprise support funds, payment for services and unreimbursed expenses.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a departmental statement for each department of a participant based on the source of funds statement and uses of funds statement for each department.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising generating ratios using the departmental statements.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method of claim 4 tracking the flow of funds in an academic health center including a school of medicine, a hospital and a clinical practice plan as participants, comprising the steps of:

gathering data from each of the participants and other entities; and

loading the data into processor, the processor carrying out the functions of:

identifying, using the loaded data, all transactions across the participants and other entities;

identifying, using the loaded data, all sources of funds provided for each department of a participant;

identifying, using the loaded data, all uses of funds for said each department of the participant;

analyzing the funds flow among the participants;

generating a source of funds statement and uses of funds statement for each participant using the identified sources of funds and uses of funds;

generating a departmental statement for each department of a participant based on the source of funds statement and uses of funds statement for each department; and

generating ratios using the departmental statements outputting the source of funds statement and uses of funds statements to an output device of the computer, wherein

the ratios include at least one ratio selected from the group consisting of: productivity and efficiency ratios, efficiency and investment ratios, productivity and efficiency for faculty compensation ratios, productivity for funds generated and funds invested ratios, external funds generated per total faculty salary plus benefits ratios, contribution of external funds generated to total faculty plus benefits excluding centrally provided services ratios; contribution of external funds generated to total faculty plus benefits including centrally provided services ratios; dependency funding mix percentage ratios; and efficiency expense mix percentage ratios.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising generating a report for each participant comprising the departmental ratios.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising including the step of comparing corresponding ratios for departments within a participant.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the method further comprises a plurality of academic health centers and further comprising comparing the ratios for similar departments among a plurality of similarly situated participants.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying all transactions across the participants and other entities, further comprises quantifying the funds flows among the participants and other entities.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of quantifying the funds flows among participants, further comprises identifying support and quantifying expected return for the support.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for tracking the flow of funds in an academic health center, comprising:

a school of medicine, a hospital and a clinical practice plan as participants;

a network connecting each of the participants;

a processor for gathering data from each of the participants via the network and ~~generating at least one report based on the data, wherein the data includes a list of all sources of funds and uses of funds for each department of a participant~~ carrying out the functions of:

identifying, using the gathered data, all transactions across said each of the participants;

identifying, using the gathered data, all sources of funds and provided for each department of a participant;

identifying, using the gathered data, all uses of funds for each department of the participant;

analyzing the funds flow among the participants; and

generating a source of funds statement and uses of funds statement for each participant using the identified sources of funds and uses of funds, wherein

the source of funds includes cash received and values received that are not cash, and

the uses of funds include cash paid and values provided that are not cash values.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The A system of claim 11~~ for tracking the flow of funds in an academic health center, comprising:

a school of medicine, a hospital and a clinical practice plan as participants;

a network connecting each of the participants; and

a processor for gathering data from each of the participants and generating at least one report based on the data, wherein the data includes a list of all sources of funds and uses of funds for a each department of a participant, wherein the at least one report is selected from the group consisting of: custom triangle and supporting statements, standard triangle and supporting statements, customized departmental statements, standard department statements, departmental ratios by participants, ratios by department across participants, aggregate department sources and uses per FTE.